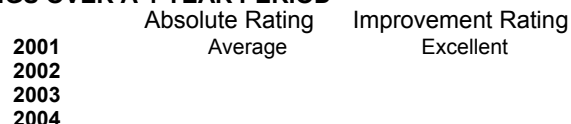


ABSOLUTE RATING: Average
IMPROVEMENT RATING: Excellent

Number of Elementary schools with students like ours: 91.

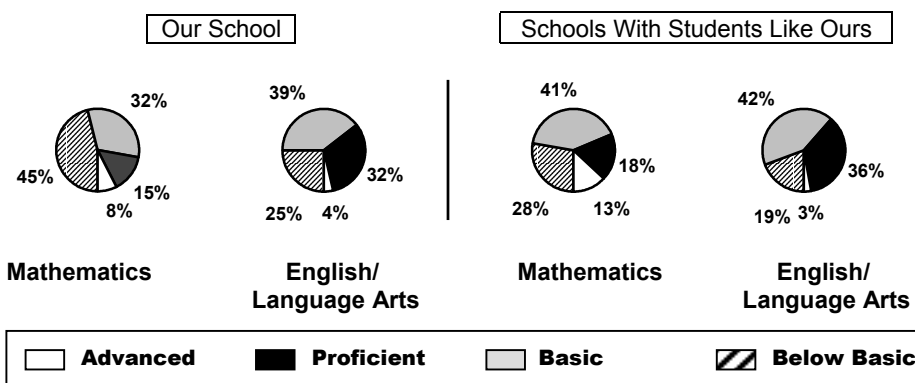
The absolute ratings for those schools ranged from average to excellent. For improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to excellent.

RATINGS OVER A 4-YEAR PERIOD



(Definitions of School Rating Terms on Page 4)

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

Science scores are to be reported on the 2004 School Report Card. Social studies scores are to be reported on the 2005 School Report Card.

PERCENT OF STUDENTS SCORING BASIC OR ABOVE ON THE PACT				
Student Group	English/ Language Arts	Math	Science	Social Studies
All students (n=253)	75.1	53.8	N/A	N/A
Students with disabilities other than Speech (n=16)	N/A	N/A		
Students without disabilities (n=234)	78.2	55.1		
Gender				
Male (n=123)	71.5	58.5		
Female (n=127)	80.3	49.2		
Ethnic Group				
African American (n=86)	58.1	34.1		
Hispanic (n=13)	N/A	N/A		
White (n=148)	87.2	65.1		
Other (n=3)	N/A	N/A		
Lunch Status Group				
Free/reduced-price Lunch (n=113)	61.1	38.6		
Pay for lunch (n=137)	88.3	66.2		

SCHOOL PROFILE

INDICATORS OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

SCHOOL	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Elementary School
• Dollars spent per student	\$5,005	N/A	\$5,090	\$5,347
• Prime instructional time	94.2%	Up from 88.8%	90.8%	90.2%
• Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	21.9 to 1	N/A	19.1 to 1	18.7 to 1
STUDENTS (n=536)				
• Attendance Rate	95.3%	Up from 95.1%	96.2%	96.2%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	6%	N/A	3.6%	4.1%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (math) off grade level	5.9%	N/A	2.4%	3.1%
• First graders who attended full day kindergarten	96.1%	No change	96.1%	96.3%
• Meeting grade 1 and 2 readiness standards	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Retention rate	2.2%	N/A	3.2%	3.6%
TEACHERS (n=44)				
• Professional Development days per teacher	5 Days	Down from 8.4	7.6 Days	7.6 days
• Attendance Rate	99.3%	Up from 95.4%	95.5%	95.1%
• Teachers with advanced degrees	43.2%	Down from 47.1%	48%	47.7%
• Continuing contract teachers	68.2%	Down from 73.5%	84%	83.8%
• Teachers with out-of-field permits	4.5%	Up from 0%	0%	0.0%
• Teachers returning from the previous school year	N/A	N/A	88.1%	87.2%
• Average teacher salary	\$38,042	Up 7.0%	\$38,042	\$37,520

SCHOOL FACTS

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Elementary School
SCHOOL				
• Percentage of expenditures spent on teacher salaries	64.2%	N/A	64.4%	65.3%
• Principal's years at the school	11	N/A	4	4.0
• Parents attending conferences	93.5%	N/A	96.6%	95.6%
• Opportunities in the arts	Good	N/A	Good	Good
STUDENTS				
• On academic plans	N/A	N/A	42.7%	43.1%
• On academic probation	N/A	N/A	0%	0.0%
• Older than usual for grade	0.9%	Up from 0.4%	1%	1.1%
• Suspended or expelled	5	N/A	0	1
• Gifted and talented	23%	Up from 15.3%	14.5%	11.5%
• With disabilities other than speech	8.3%	Up from 4.5%	8.7%	8.4%



PRINCIPAL'S / SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT

The 2000-2001 school year was our second as a school, and it was a great one. We made great strides in becoming a school community just as we improved the quality of the staff at Bluffton Elementary.

Some of our highlights were:

- + Our first year as a year-round school
- + Increased participation by parents in school activities
- + Reduction in the number of behavior referrals
- + Improved daily classroom attendance
- + Integrated curriculum
- + Multi-age groupings in all classrooms
- + Weekly, well-attended meetings for our Hispanic parents
- + The addition of a highly-qualified literacy coach
- + Spotlighted in the Savannah Morning News as a "break-the-mold" kind of school that works to meet students' needs in whatever manner makes sense

Our challenges continue to be:

- + An ever-growing limited English proficient population
- + Many students' reading and math performance below grade level
- + Attendance for some students still below acceptable levels
- + Behavior of some students still below acceptable levels

We continue to address these issues in traditional and some non-traditional ways. We have qualified for Title One federal assistance, and will use those funds to bring additional personnel into classrooms to help raise students' reading and math levels. We will also have an extensive, grant-funded after-school program.

Bluffton Elementary is a child-friendly school that invites parent participation, encourages positive student behavior, and is a great place to grow. We're just getting started . . . but we're making tracks.

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Percent	Teachers	Students	Parents
Satisfied with learning environment	96.3	86.6	(Avail. 2002)
Satisfied with social and physical environment	92.3	89.4	
Satisfied with home-school relations	88.5	92.5	

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Bluffton Elementary
160 H.E. McCracken Circle
Bluffton, SC 29910

Grades PK-5 Elementary School

Enrollment: 536 Students

Principal

Dr. Kathleen Corley 843-706-8500

Superintendent

Herman K. Gaither 843-322-2300

Board Chair

Earl Campbell 843-846-4531



THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual School
Report Card

2001

School Grade:
Excellent



South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at
www.myschools.com